(d) the nature and pattern of the cooperation expected from the State Government and the details of the views obtained, if any, from the concerned States?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Poverty Alleviation Programmes

692. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing the poverty alleviation programmes for the slum-dwellers and urban poor people;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the details of steps Government propose to take to provide amenities to the slum-dwellers along with the financial assistance to the various States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation has been implementing a Centrally sponsored Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), on all India basis, through States/Union Territories, with effect from 01.12.1997 with a view to providing gainful employment to the urban unemployed and underemployed poor through, firstly, encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have studies upto 9th standard and, secondly, by providing wage employment by utilising their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. The scheme is funded in the ratio of 75:25 between the Centre and the States.

In addition to the above, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, named as Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) is being implemented by the Central Government since December 2001, with a view to ameliorating the conditions of the urban slum dwellers living Below Poverty Line who do not possess adequate shelter. Primary objective of the scheme is to facilitate the construction and upgradation of the dwelling units for slum-dwellers and to provide health and enabling urban environment through community toilets under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan component of the scheme. This is the first scheme of its kind meant, exclusively, for the slum dwellers providing a Government of India subsidy of 50%, with the balance 50% to be arranged

by the State Government with ceiling cost prescribed both for dwelling units and community toilets.

(c) With a view to ameliorate the living conditions of urban slums a programme known as National Slum Development Programme (NSDP) is being implemented since August, 1996 at the National Level for development of urban slums. Under the National Slum Development Programme (NSDP) funds are allocated as Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to the States annually on the basis of pro-rata slum population of the State for provision of basic amenities etc. The objective of this programme is upgradation of urban slums by providing physical amenities like water supply, storm water drains, community bath, widening and paving of existing lanes, sewers, community latrines, street lights etc. Besides, the funds under NSDP can be used for provision of community infrastructure and social amenities like pre-school education, non-formal education, adult education, maternity, child health and primary health care includng immunization etc. The programme also has a component of shelter upgradation or construction of new houses.

Since inception of this scheme, a total amount of Rs.2475.85 crore was released to the States and UTs of the country under this programme.

Financial Assistance to U.P.

693. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) The details of the financial assistance sanctioned and released by Government to Uttar Pradesh during the last three years under the Urban Employment and Poverty Eradication Schemes, Year-wise; and

(b) The number of beneficiaries as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation is implementing a Centrally sponsored Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), on all India basis, including the State of Uttar Pradesh, with effect from 01.12.1997 with a view to providing gainful employment to the urban unemployed and underemployed poor through, firstly, encouraging the settng up of self-employment ventures by those who have studied upto 9th standard and, secondly, by providing wage employment by utilising their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public asset.